

The managerial decision at Sinclair Broadcasting to force Sinclair's stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of the abuse of power and media consolidation.

It's a privilege that Sinclair uses public airwaves free of charge. Therefore, Sinclair is obligated by law to serve the public interest so that this privilege is not abused. When self-serving interests are introduced into otherwise public airwaves, one serious consequence is the weakening of democracy itself. The public has the right to non-partisanship, diverse points of view and substantive information about issues that affect our daily lives, physical environment, future generations.

The manipulative, unwholesome intent on the part of Sinclair management clearly demonstrates why we need to strengthen media ownership rules rather than weaken them. It shows why the license renewal process needs to be done thoughtfully and conscientiously, with the greater good in mind. Thank you.